[1st February 1934

A.—(a) No, but instructions have been issued that the orders of Government should be taken before renewing licences for such weapons.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. G. Lakshmana Reddi:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member why Government insist upon orders being taken from them by the District Magistrates before renewing licences for automatic weapons?"

The hon. Sir Mahomed Usman:—"Because automatic weapons can easily be concealed or stolen and Government want that proper attention should be paid before licence is granted."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member the difference between an automatic weapon and a revolver?"

The hon. Sir Mahomed Usman:—"From my point of view, an automatic weapon can be concealed or stolen more easily than a revolver."

Law and Order (General)

Arrests and conviction and discharge since June 1933 for offences of a political nature.

* 592 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the number is of arrests of a political nature made in each month since June 1933 in each district; and

(b) how many have been convicted and how many have been let off?

A.—(a) The information is not available.

(b) A statement [a] showing the number of persons convicted of offences connected with the civil disobedience movement in each month since June 1933 in each district is placed on the table.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"In view of the fact that civil disobedience movement is not existing now, may I ask whether the hon. the Home Member will consider the advisability of releasing those people who have been sentenced but who are still in jail?"

The hon. Sir Mahomed Usman:—"I must ask for notice of that question."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Provision of a flood bank to the Korayar river in the Srivilliputtur taluk.

593 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the Council table the report received in answer to question No. 445 asked at the meeting of the Council on 10th November 1933?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 371 infra.